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Mr. Stowell finds that "when a State exacts redress for the injury to its prestige or interests, it protects society by making it certain to all who harbor evil designs that the transgressor will be brought to book." Inasmuch as such exaction of redress never takes place except the attacking nation be stronger than the supposed offending nation, Mr. Stowell's statement can only be true when the offender is the weaker. He leaves, therefore, the nation superior in power with full liberty to harbor evil designs without fear of being brought to book. But, after all, who is to determine that the weaker nation has wrongfully affected the "prestige or interests" of the stronger? So long as the stronger nation alone settles this matter, there can be neither law nor justice controlling the situation. The whole statement, therefore, amounts simply to an assertion that if the weaker nation does something that the stronger nation conceives prejudicial to it, the stronger nation can attack and inflict its own punishment. This may be true as a statement of fact, the fact being that the stronger nation is a law unto itself; but it is not a statement of anything that may be regarded as fundamental international law.

Again illustrating his idea, Mr. Stowell states that "in view of the many instances in which bombardment and drastic measures have been employed, it is hard to deny that there is a presumption of legality in their favor." In other words, it would seem from Mr. Stowell's declaration that the more often, under circumstances of brutality, stronger nations have taken vengeance into their own hands, the more convincing the proof of their right to be judges in their own cause and to inflict death upon innocent people in nowise connected with the offense. It would seem that the multiplication of ciphers somehow creates a positive quantity. True international law cannot be so written.

All we have said is not a discussion as to whether war is or is not proper or justifiable. It is simply to point out that law is one thing, and that the organized chaos (paradoxically speaking) called war is another and entirely different thing. Confusion upon this point on the part of international law writers has made their teachings a mockery to the laymen, who will not regard international law seriously till a bill of divorcement has been signed between it and war in all its phases. The two do not belong in the same bed.

In the present state of barbarism in international law, or pseudo-international law, the usefulness of Mr. Stowell's book and the occasion for its writing may not be denied.

BOOK REVIEWS

DIE WELTBÜHNE, a weekly publication of Charlottenburg (Berlin), numbers for July 20, August 31, September 28, October 12, and November 16, 1922.

These numbers contain a controversy between Heinrich Kanner, of Vienna, some of whose writings have appeared in *ADVOCATE OF PEACE*, and General Count Montgelas, formerly of the German General Staff.

The controversy grew out of an article by Dr. Kanner in the number for July 20, entitled "*Das Urbild des Weltkriegs*" ("The Original Plan of the World War").

In the first two volumes of the memoirs of Field Marshal Franz Conrad von Hoetzendorf, formerly chief of the Austrian General Staff, Dr. Kanner found six official and two private letters exchanged by Hoetzendorf with the head of the German General Staff, von Moltke. It appears that in 1909, at the time of the European crisis, due to Austria's annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Austria and Germany realized that a world war might thus be engendered, and the chiefs of their general staffs were instructed by their respective emperors and prime ministers to prepare a plan of campaign. This plan of campaign was agreed upon in 1909 and maintained and developed in subsequent years. In 1914 it was this very plan that Germany and Austria pursued. These facts are indubitable. The issue between Dr. Kanner and General Montgelas turns on their significance. The former contends that the will to war on the part of the emperors, their prime ministers, and the chiefs of their general staffs is evidenced by the formulation of

an offensive military plan of campaign, particularly in view of the fact that Bismarck always refused to allow the military chiefs of Germany and Austria to agree upon such a plan. General Montgelas endeavors to show that the making of such a plan was merely a routine duty of the two chiefs of staff. He disputes that it was binding; in fact that it was a formal agreement. Thus the historians dig up and bury their dead over and over, not always recognizing the corpse as together they look sadly on, arguing heatedly the while.

THE LITTLE CORNER NEVER CONQUERED: THE STORY OF THE RED CROSS WORK FOR BELGIUM. By *John van Schaick*. The Macmillan Co., New York. Pp. 1-248; appendices and index, pp. 249-282. \$2.00.

Dr. Van Schaick has here written a faithful account of what followed when the American Red Cross forces entered Belgium. It is not a brilliant book. It is another of the fairly numerous—and they should be wholly welcome—stories written about one phase or another of American activity in the war by men who participated in the activity, and who set about leaving an account of it with much the same thoroughness and devotion that they displayed during the war. The time will come when all of these efforts will be parts of a total of knowledge that will be of very large importance.

In this volume the beginning is made very simply with the statement that the War Council of the Red Cross, the government approving, sent a commission to Europe in 1917. Dr. Van Schaick explains that the head of the commission was Grayson M. P. Murphy, a successful New York banker and West Point graduate, who had a way of getting things done. He continues in a careful, exact sort of fashion to tell what happened in the first days after the commission reached Europe, and then he gets into its larger work.

With his heart evidently filled with admiration for the part Belgium played in the war—an admiration that has not dulled in the passing of time—the author tells what Belgium's daring and suffering had been, and so he finds his way into descriptions that touch by their simplicity and sincerity, even as they did in the days between 1914 and 1918. Stories of refugees, stories of children, stories of parted families—too often parted forever—and, happily, stories of generous American effort to do whatsoever money and willing hearts could do to bring relief. Dr. Van Schaick has done a useful, patient work.

The little corner never conquered refers to that tiny portion of Flanders behind Ypres and the Yser which was held by the Belgian army for four years of the war. Small as the area was, it called for as much intensive relief work as any district affected by the war, and Dr. Van Schaick has written a faithful and interesting account of the activities of the American Red Cross in that section.

The problems to be handled were many and various. Every sort of assistance, military and civil, was needed urgently by the Belgian army and the remnant of unconquered country, but undoubtedly the most difficult problem was afforded by the thousands upon thousands of refugees who fled before the German occupation. Of these, almost four million eventually reached England, many by way of Holland, where they were not wanted and could not be cared for; thousands more went into France, where they eventually gathered into groups and were greatly assisted by the A. R. C.

It was, perhaps, especially fortunate for these that the American Red Cross was in a position to help them, for most of the refugees, being Flemish and of the lower classes, had alien and difficult temperaments and eventually became very unpopular, both in England and France. The work done in this regard is ably, and at times entertainingly, described by the writer.

Nothing, however, could give a better impression of war conditions than the chapter devoted to children's stories, some of them related by the children themselves and others evidently recorded by A. R. C. workers. Children's colonies were organized and assisted by the American Red Cross, in which as much as possible of this tragic flotsam and jetsam of war was gathered and cared for, but the inevitable misery